

Honolulu Star-Bulletin

RILEY H. ALLEN

EDITOR

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WHY LICENSE IT?

The Star-Bulletin would do Sheriff Jarrett no injustice in connection with his decision to approve the issuance of a permit to Madame Puahi for her hula resort, but this paper feels emphatically that the decision is a mistake in public policy.

The sheriff interprets the opinion of Deputy Attorney Weaver to mean that he must issue a permit for the dance on the basis of a theatrical performance or show. The deputy attorney's opinion said:

The only limitation to the conducting of a show by the statute is that indicated in the restriction, providing that no license may be given for a show of an "immoral character." This restriction applies to any show.

It is not presumed that a person is going to conduct a show in violation of the statute. There is ample police power to restrain any participant in an immoral show.

That is a legal opinion. But it must be applied to the facts regarding the Puahi hall. Those facts are that the hula resort has not been conducted in an orderly manner, that it has not been conducted in observance of good morals, that it has not been properly restrained by the police.

Madame Puahi was unable to secure a permit from the supervisors to conduct her place as a "dance-hall." Thereupon she applied for a sheriff's permit to conduct it as a "show."

On this point of proper police restraint, the dance-hall inspectors had said in a report as late as September 29:

The dance-hall is to be located on the premises formerly used for exhibition purposes in giving exhibitions of hula dancing. The premises themselves are in good condition and apparently sanitary. In the use to which they have been heretofore put, the premises have received a reputation of being "sporty" and of being frequented by lewd women. Having such a reputation the place is apt to be visited by persons who would prove themselves undesirable in the public dance hall. It is more than usually necessary, therefore, that the premises be adequately policed. This is impossible in the neighborhood of the premises in question, situated as they are at a considerable distance from any main thoroughfare and in a place seldom visited by the police.

Were it possible to require in the license that the licensee adequately police the premises at his or her own expense, your inspectors would feel differently concerning this application. As this is, however, under the law, impossible, your inspectors recommend that the license be not granted.

With this statement from the inspectors charged with making a careful investigation of the facts regarding the Puahi resort, the sheriff is not bound to issue a permit to Madame Puahi, even under Deputy Weaver's opinion. He has every right to refuse this permit because of the impossibility of properly policing this remote spot. Isn't it going to be just as hard to police the Puahi "show" as it was to police the Puahi "dance"?

The residents of Kapahulu are in no uncertain mood. They do not want the dance-hall in their neighborhood and they give their reasons in a letter published today.

Their protest alone should be sufficient for the sheriff to deny the license. Then, if the proprietress of the joint insists that she has a legal right to a permit, let her settle the matter in court.

Sheriff Jarrett should not welcome an excuse to do what is manifestly against good public policy.

GET LOCAL IMPROVEMENT UNDER WAY

One hundred thousand dollars a year can be saved for the general fund of the city and county of Honolulu if the improvement of Honolulu's streets and roads are put upon the local-assessment basis.

This is the estimate of those who have been studying the municipal situation in connection with the new improvement law.

That law was passed by the legislature six months ago, but the board of supervisors and the people of this city have not yet given it a trial.

A wise attitude to take now is that work on all streets and roads except the main arteries of traffic should be held up until such work can be put on the local-assessment basis. The extremely important work on the more generally used streets is being done by appropriation from the general fund. Inasmuch as these streets benefit all the people of the city, all the people should help pay for the improvement. Such main traffic arteries as Kalakaua avenue, King street, and the road to Kaimuki benefit not a particular section of the community, but the whole city. It is fair, therefore, to charge the whole city for their improvement. On the other hand, it is not fair to charge the whole city—that is, the general fund—with the improvement of side-streets or of roads where there

is no benefit to be conferred on the transportation facilities of the community. Until the passage of the local improvement bills by the last legislature, the general fund perforce stood the drain of special improvement work, but it should do so no longer.

It would seem that the supervisors, in consultation with real estate experts and businessmen, improvement clubs and the commercial organizations, should designate the main arteries of traffic and make the general fund pay at least 50 per cent of the improvement expense. The supervisors would then be in a position to insist that local improvement districts pay the assessments for other street improvement.

The general fund, with a saving of \$100,000 a year, would be able to pay for a number of municipal projects now held up for lack of money—a free garbage system, for instance, or a municipal hospital, or children's playgrounds.

It is true that the people of Honolulu are facing harder times than they have experienced for some years, and it is difficult to convince property-owners, particularly the smaller property-owners, that they should form local improvement districts and bear the burden of street-opening and street-paving. But at least the city officials may insist that none but sorely-needed improvement work be done from the general fund, and that if any particular section of Honolulu asks for new streets, it must be willing to pay the cost.

SAVING THE WILD BIRDS

Every humanely-constituted person will rejoice that the new tariff law prohibits the importation of aigrettes or the plumage of any wild fowl. An impression had gained ground here that this provision in the tariff bill had been stricken out by the senate and not restored by the joint conference committee. The house, thanks to the vigorous work of the Audubon Society and other organizations, framed this part of the tariff bill expressly to protect wild fowl, to check their wholesale destruction by market-hunters who sell the skins and feathers for millinery uses. In the senate an attempt was made to eliminate this clause and Senator Reed of Missouri delivered himself of a speech in which he said that the movement to protect the birds was silly sentimentalism. According to report, the senate killed the plumage clause, but evidently the vigorous efforts of the bird-lovers have been crowned with well-deserved victory.

America is by far the largest consumer of bird-skins and feathers, buying hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth abroad annually. This trade will now be stopped. It will mean loss of business to the milliners, but in the end fashions will change to accommodate themselves to changed conditions. Meanwhile, the indiscriminate and cruel slaughter of wild birds will be greatly reduced.

Our daily anxiety over the governorship, the proposed prosecution of the "beef trust," the new tariff, the Pankhursts, Governor Sulzer and Bridegroom Manuel isn't going to be feverish until after the New York Giants and the Philadelphia Athletics have finished their little argument.

Inspector Halsey's activities in deporting aliens have been upheld by the commissioner-general of immigration. And these activities should be upheld in Honolulu, too, where the effects of the deportations will first become apparent.

That German prince who was fined for insulting a telephone girl ought to insist on automatic equipment. Then he could give his temper all the exercise it needs.

President Wilson says that "the journey is only half finished." And a good many of the Bourbons are already getting rather footsore.

The scene of real action now shifts from congressional halls at Washington, D. C., to the Polo Grounds at New York.

If McDuffie has aspirations to succeed Sheriff Jarrett, he has kept them pretty well hidden.

Hilo's federal building progresses. Honolulu's does not.

This police activity against gamblers is certainly amazing.

Is it going to be, In Beef We Trust?

Letters TO THE EDITOR

[The Star-Bulletin invites free and frank discussion in this column on all legitimate subjects of current interest. Communications are constantly received to which no signature is attached. This paper will treat as confidential signatures to letters if the writers so desire, but cannot give space to anonymous communications.]

WELCOME THE CHINESE BALL TEAM

Oct. 3, 1913.
Editor Honolulu Star-Bulletin,
Sir:—Not very long after the civic convention ended there appeared an article written by one of the Japanese editors in which he stated the fact that prominent Chinese and Japanese editors were not invited to take part in the meetings and doings of the convention. The Advertiser, in reply, stated that that article should have been written before the convention took place, i. e. the public should be reminded beforehand.

I wish to say that it is about time for the Chamber of Commerce and Ad Club to take active part in putting up a grand reception for the home-coming of the All-Chinese baseball team. The Chamber of Commerce are supposedly the claimants to advertise Hawaii, and the Chinese baseball team has played no little part in this direction, and they and the people of Hawaii should be proud of it. The All-Chinese team succeeded, in part at least, in putting Hawaii on the map, but this year they have also painted it with glaring colors. How many Americans in the east and middle-western states knew anything about Hawaii previous to the Chinese invasion?

Their arrival is only a short time

away. By reason of their success and the part they are playing for Hawaii, I hope action will be taken soon by the two bodies mentioned above. The Chamber of Commerce and the Ad Club cannot accomplish this successfully without the aid of our local papers to boost the thing up. Lastly, I wish it to be clearly understood that I am not asking the Chamber of Commerce or the Ad Club to give a reception to the ball team.

Yours truly,

READER.

QUESTIONS WHALEY DIRECT

Editor Honolulu Star-Bulletin,
Sir:—As a rule I desire to keep as far as possible from all courts, juries and their workings, but I must confess that I am greatly interested in the method and balloting by which the jury in the Whaley case arrived at the verdict of first degree manslaughter. If Whaley killed his wife by the discharge of a gun, he is guilty of murder in some degree, that degree to be settled on by the jury. Even if the shot was fired in the described scuffle for the weapon (a weapon that was capable of taking life, and was especially manufactured for that purpose) and fired by Whaley, he is guilty of murder in some degree. I fail to see where manslaughter figures in the case at all.

Then, again, if Whaley did not fire the shot, but the gun was discharged through the agency of the woman, it would seem, according to all sense of justice, that Whaley is not guilty of anything in any degree.

It seems to be the consensus of opinion that Whaley is or is not guilty of murder in some degree. Manslaughter does not seem to fit in this case.

JUSTICE.

Personal Mention

MRS. JOHN KANAE, 54 years old, wife of the former police captain, died at her home on Kama lane Saturday morning following a brief illness.

GEORGE R. CLARK, chief clerk in the governor's office, who has just completed a month's vacation, was at his desk in the capitol this morning.

MISS MARGERY MCGUIRE, stenographer in the governor's office, will leave for the mainland in the Wilhelmina Wednesday for a six weeks' vacation in Southern California.

ROY CHRISTY, who recently resigned as manager of the Honolulu Drug Company, has returned to this city after a visit on Hawaii and has accepted a position with Chambers Drug Company.

Little Interviews

—P. L. WEAVER: My swat-the-fly ordinance is not forgotten. You will hear more of it later. Such a law is needed here.

—A. L. C. ATKINSON: The Bull Moosers are coming up and pretty soon we'll have a mighty party here. We are getting so many new members that I can't count them.

—MAYOR FERN: It's too early for politics now, in one sense of the word. In the other, politics are always in order. But I'm not doing anything myself—just watching the Republicans and smiling.

—HAROLD GIFFARD: Now that the tariff bill has been actually signed, we can turn and watch to see what Washington does with the currency bill, though in the case of the currency measure Hawaii is not directly affected.

—SENATOR WIRTZ: The civil service commission will put the recommendations agreed upon for the improvement of the police and fire departments before the supervisors this week. This is one of the important duties of the commission—to recommend to the board that certain improvements be made.

Chairman Wirtz of the civil service commission is expected to appear before the board of supervisors at its meeting tomorrow evening to present the recommendations for the improvement of the police and fire departments to the city fathers. He will probably make a short address dealing with the necessity of such improvements which include an increase in the number of men in both forces and a complete and modern system of police and fire alarm boxes.

FOR RENT

Manoa Valley.....	2 bedrooms, furnished, will lease for one year.....	\$50.00
Palo Alto Hill, Kaimuki.....	3 bedrooms.....	35.00
Wilder Avenue.....	3 bedrooms.....	40.00
Matlock Ave.....	3 bedrooms.....	35.00
Aloha Lane.....	2 bedrooms.....	20.00

FOR SALE

Young & Punahou Sts.....	House and lot.....	\$1600.00
College Hills.....	House and lot.....	7350.00
Wilder Ave. & Kewalo St.....	House and lot.....	7500.00
Anapuni Street.....	House and lot.....	4500.00
Pikoi Street.....	House and lot, including furniture.....	6500.00
Young Street.....	House and lot.....	4000.00
Young Street.....	House and lot.....	3000.00
Parker Street, College Hills.....	Lot.....	2500.00
Gulick Avenue.....	House and lot.....	3500.00

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That's All

AMERICANS CAPTURED BY CHINESE REBELS, IS REPORT

(Special cable to the Japanese Chronicle.)

TOKIO, Japan, October 5.—Reports received here are to the effect that a mob of Chinese ex-soldiers in the pro-

vince of Hupeh, China, have captured five American missionaries, and are holding them for ransom, and that the United States government, through its legation at Peking, has made a formal protest to the Chinese republic. It is also reported that eight American and Norwegian missionaries have been captured and are being held by the rebels.

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